

Appln. No. 09/899,863

AMENDMENT

Docket No. NZK-128-1

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Please cancel Claims 26-28, without prejudice or disclaimer; amend Claims 1-3; and add new Claims 29-36.

1. (Currently amended) ~~A~~ An isolated or purified protein represented by SEQ ID NO:1 or ~~a~~ an isolated or purified protein having an amino acid sequence wherein one amino acid residue in the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO:1 is deleted, added, or substituted, and the protein binds to Nef.

2. (Currently amended) ~~A~~ An isolated or purified protein as claimed in claim 1 having an amino acid sequence where one amino acid residue in the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO:1 is deleted, added, or substituted.

3. (Currently amended) ~~A~~ An isolated or purified protein having an amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO:1.

4-28. (Canceled)

29. (NEW) A protein represented by SEQ ID NO:1 or a protein having an amino acid sequence wherein onc amino acid residue in the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO:1 is deleted, added, or substituted, and the protein binds to Nef, wherein said protein is purified or isolated by genetic engineering.

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30. (NEW) A protein as claimed in claim 29 having an amino acid sequence where one amino acid residue in the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO:1 is deleted, added, or substituted.

31. (NEW) A protein as claimed in claim 29 having an amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO:1.

32. (NEW) A protein as claimed in claim 2, wherein said protein is isolated.

33. (NEW) A protein as claimed in claim 3, wherein said protein is isolated.

34. (NEW) A protein as claimed in claim 2, wherein said protein is purified.

35. (NEW) A protein as claimed in claim 3, wherein said protein is purified.

36. (NEW) A protein represented by SEQ ID NO:1 or a protein having an amino acid sequence wherein one amino acid residue in the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO:1 is deleted, added, or substituted, and the protein binds to Nef, wherein said protein is obtained by genetic engineering.